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NEWS BULLETIN AUG '80

Ground Saucer Watch

"CIVILIAN AERIAL PHENOMENA RESEARCH ORGANIZATION"
13238 N. 7th DRIVE - PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85029

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DIRECTLY SPEAKING

by: William H. Spaulding/Director

The popular consensus of the general public on the subject of UFO's can be divided into two separate groups - the believers, to whom each UFO event is a real experience and the non-believer, to whom each sighting is pure nonsense. Of course, the tenured researcher will advise that additional subdividing must be done to the two major categories.

The believer grouping contains some persons who envision that all research should be concentrated on the contact cases. This category can be a religious philosophy or the abduction syndrome, whereas, earthlings are kidnapped, medically examined and "returned" to their normal lifestyle with a portion of their "experience" surrounded in secrecy. Usually, the subjective tools of regressive hypnosis or polygraph examination are used to provide answers to the missing time of the abduction experience.

Another believer category is the ETH (Extra-Terrestrial Hypothesis) supporter who knows that some or all of the unexplained sightings are visitations from outer space with a sundry of reasons for the visit to earth. This category generally researches the sightings of UFO's but pays little attention to reports of "space creatures".

Another major category of believer is a group that theorizes that the UFO is an unexplained phenomenon that deserves a serious scientific study. This belief circumvents the possibilities of UFO's being attributable to a new natural phenomenon and/or a physical (nuts & bolts) source.

In the category of the non-believer, things are easier to explain. It's simply a matter of choosing a group that fits their pet theory. This ranges from the hoax, misinterpretation, mental problems of the witness(es) and insufficient data.

It is so easy to stereo-type UFO's into these divisions, even the reports that are difficult to explain, due to the separation of signal from the noise and the past history of so many reports deteriorating under close scrutiny.

After 30 plus years of reports it now becomes time to question who is right or at least half-right. The best solution to this question would be a review of the data base. Where does the evidence lead. Are UFO's real or are they imaginary?

This writer's feelings on the UFO phenomenon is based on years of research, the documents received from the various government agencies and the interpretation of the evidence.

For years this organization has leaned towards the hypothesis of ETH as a possible source of the phenomenon. Yet, there are too many unanswered questions and not enough data to substantiate visitations from outer space. This by no stretch of the imagination infers that UFO's do not exist. It only means that a change in thinking is necessary.

This organization is beginning to modify its present theories as to the source of UFO reports. We are starting to look closely at the earth and spending less time looking at the sky for the answer. It appears that the U.S. government is the source of some of the UFO sightings. This statement sounds far-fetched, yet there is some logic and data to support this claim. The following capsulates the possibility of the UFO phenomenon being connected with the government:

1. Although thousands of UFO data points exist, there is not one qualitative fact to support ETH.

2. There are hundreds of cases of UFO landings with humanoid creatures, but the majority of these incidences are single witness events void of supportive data.

3. There are too many UFO reports of landings, whereas, if all events were to be reported, there would be a factor of at least 100 added to the existing numeric base.

4. The data appears to support the theory that persons who have "contact" with UFO contacts are selected rather than the experience being random chance.

5. The CIA as early as 1949 was collecting UFO data.

6. The Intelligence Agencies appear to be directing and controlling all government investigations into this subject.

7. Years after the closure of the U.S. Air Force Project Blue Book, representatives of the CIA are checking with Air Force officials immediately after the occurrence of a UFO sighting.

8. Numerous FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) documents obtained from the government indicate their concern. However, this concern appears to be directed towards how much material (if any) was obtained on the sighting as opposed to what scientific value the event contained.

9. There is cursory evidence that cattle mutilations are interrelated with UFO's. Recent reports from law enforcement officers indicate that observations have been made of all-black helicopters, with darkened windows, noise-suppression rotor blades and high quantities of electronic gear inside the aircraft.

Does any of this have any significance? It very well could. Let's consider the following hypothesis:

1. UFO's are a manipulative device being used by the U.S. government for reasons ranging from the political to the psychological.

2. UFO's could be violating various restricted air defense zones for reasons of a real-time test just to see how effective our defense systems really are.

3. There are very few "bona fide" UFO sightings, i.e., a "real" object being observed. Instead of concerning ourselves with thousands of reports, we only need to locate the good, data-producing events. It is this writer's opinion that it only takes a few good sightings to spur tens of dozens of false-object reports. This is well proven by the thousands of misinterpretations found in the civilian and government UFO files.

4. UFO events are staged rather than occurring in a natural selection mode.

5. With all of the debasing publicity the military/intelligence community has received on their clandestine involvement with drug testing on unsuspecting humans and germ warfare experimentation with animals, it's no wonder that the Executive Branch(*) ordered all testing of this nature stopped immediately. This order stopped all obvious testing, but most likely did not stop the U.S. government from testing in complete secrecy.

One of the most effective ways to test germ warfare on animals, in a secretive manner, would be the scenario that is presently transpiring with the cattle mutilations. By creating a deception, no one will suspect your true intentions.

Helicopters, which are reported as strange lights in the distance, are being used for nerve gas/germ warfare testing on the animals. The surgical removal of the animals organs serves two purposes; a) it creates a shroud of secrecy and b) it serves the scientific purpose of additional evaluation on the animals' blood and delicate organs in a laboratory environment.

While some secret testing and surveillance action is transpiring, it appears that the UFO phenomenon is a much greater conspiracy. Could it be that the American public is being used, manipulated, for reasons of deception to cover a more sinister motive? If any of this is true it would make the theory of UFO's from outer space a childrens' story. If UFO's are being used for these purposes, then it appears that the psychological reasons, consisting of fear, ridicule, and the belief in UFOs' from outer space has produced confusion to the point that no one knows what is really happening. Now the forces behind the UFO can go on undisturbed for whatever reason is behind their motivation and UFO researchers will continue down the wrong avenue.

(*)During the later portion of the Nixon Administration, the President ordered all hallucinogenic and germ warfare testing be stopped due to adverse publicity.

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*DIA ANALYSIS OF IRANIAN INCIDENT OF SEPTEMBER 1976

1) An outstanding report: This case is a classic which meets all the criteria necessary for a valid study of a UFO phenomenon.

a) The object was seen by multiple witnesses from different locations (i.e., Shemiran, Mahrabad and the dry lake bed) and viewpoints (both airborne and from the ground).

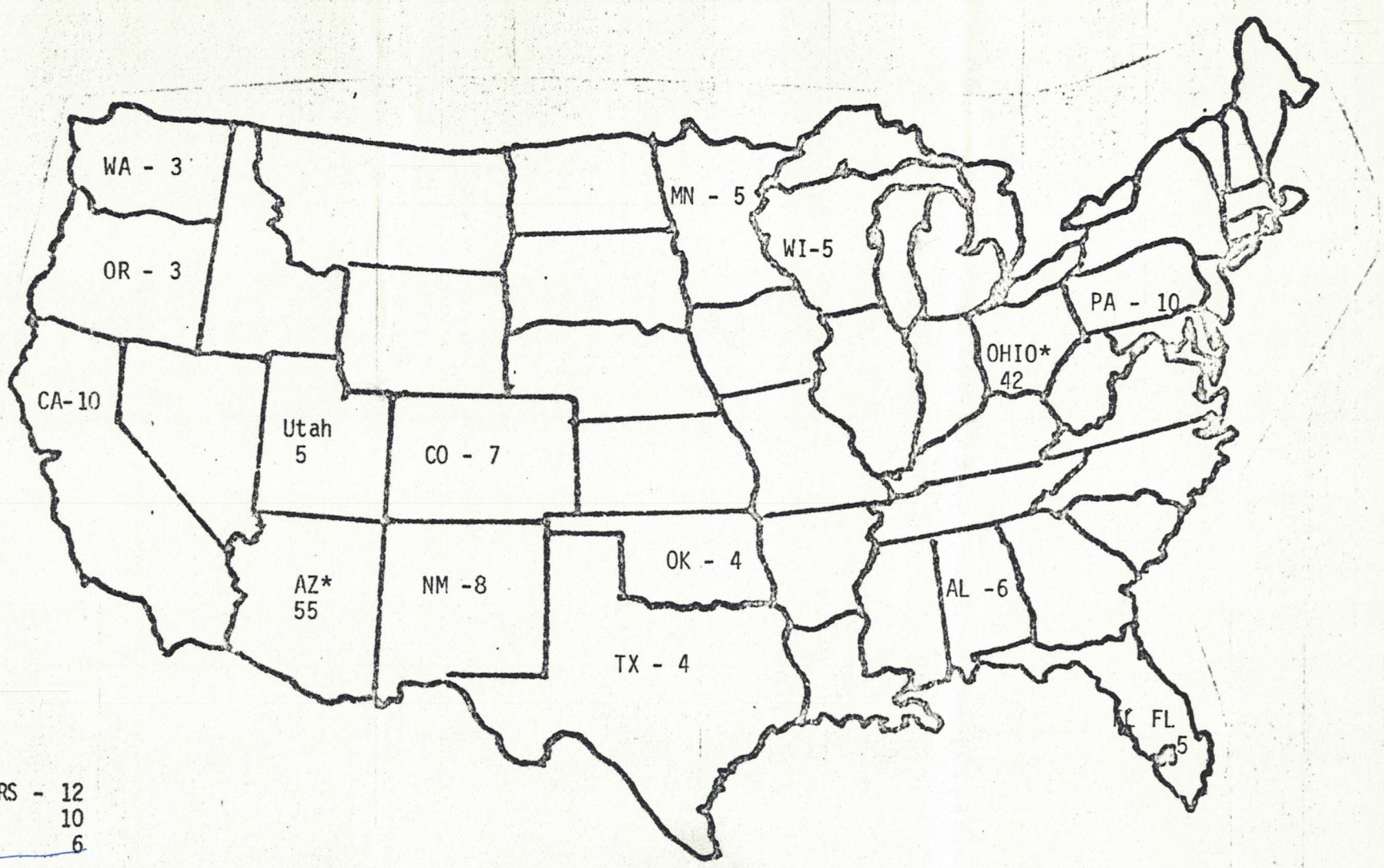
b) The credibility of many of the witnesses was high (an Air Force general, qualified aircrews, and experienced tower operators).

c) Visual sightings were confirmed by radar.

d) Similar electromagnetic effects (EME) were reported by three separate aircraft.

e) There were physiological effects on some crew members (i.e., loss of night vision due to the brightness of the object.)

*Defense Intelligence Agency



ALL OTHERS - 12
MEXICO - 10
CANADA - 6

MAP OF SIGHTINGS

Sightings logged in by GSW-East & West. All sightings do not constitute real "UFO's".

1. 200 called-in reports of UFO's.
2. 25 Reports (hard copy) received.
3. Unknown rate (%) to date - March 1980 through July 1980 = 2.5 percent (unknowns-5 sighting
4. AZ numbers do not include the Phoenix based advertisement airplanes.

These sightings cover the period of March 1980 through July 1980.

*73 sightings attributed to various bright stars, the planet Venus and other celestial and conventional misinterpretations.

The following is an excerpt on UFO photographs from an upcoming UFO book, Visions or Visitors? by W.H. Spaulding

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"A picture is worth ten thousand words" (Sometimes)

During all my years of directing the Ground Saucer Watch (GSW) and investigating the Unidentified Flying Object phenomenon I was lucky, or shall I say unfortunate, enough to view numerous UFO photographs. These photos were made by the simplest of box cameras to the most sophisticated types. The personalities and the eco-social level of the photographer also varied as much as the camera equipment.

It has been stated that photography is a true art, however, the interpretation of a photograph is very comparable to forty percent guessing and sixty percent black-magic.

For years photographs of UFOs have appeared a hundred times in magazines and on both the electronic and print media. Some of the 'pictorial evidence' revealed an inarticulate blob of light, only resembling a "flying saucer" by its almost imaginary disc shape. Others offered more detail, clearly defining the edges of a saucer-shaped craft. However, the main questions left unanswered in the stacks of raw photographic data are, are those objects real and what objective data did the picture offer after the analysis?

It is a common fact that photographs can be faked, but the main question is, to what extent can a picture be falsified? Everyone has seen the elaborate Hollywood movies depicting realistic scenes of naval battles, natural catastrophes, such as earthquakes, and various other science fiction tidbits that the most avid movie-going fan respects for its realism These scenes affect the viewer's mind to such a point that he must remind himself that this is just a movie, realistic but only a 'faked' movie.

Now, if these complicated scenes can be photographed with near exacting realism, then a simple object like a UFO can easily be faked also. A UFO does not necessarily have to be the common saucer or cigar-shaped object reported during numerous sightings. The very fact that a UFO can be any shape and size is the sole reason that makes it so easy to falsify this type of photograph by anyone. The records of the Air Force and all private researchers reveal the statistical figures of the myriad quantities of the variety of object shapes. Every known geometric form has been photographed, from circles to squares. This only tends to confuse the photographic interpreter as he culls the hundreds of pictures for a sign of a pattern. Regretfully, the photographic hoaxers have hurt the whole UFO investigation more so than any critic writer

or news media blasting the pro-UFO theories.

With the advent of inexpensive, yet good quality films and cameras, and the tremendous growth of one-day service film processors, America has indeed become a camera conscious society. A check in any town in this country will show at least one class of photography being taught in the local high school or some type of adult evening session. Then after this slight training session a story is read about a UFO sighting in the vicinity and the camera-armed buff ventures into the area knowing he will capture on film the elusive phenomenon.

The general scenario goes like this: after a fruitless search and some wasted evenings the idea of seeing the unidentified aerial phenomenon becomes less and less worth pursuing. Unfortunately, this does not deter our buff. One day while 'toying' with the camera, he realizes just how easy it is to photograph a UFO by suspending a hubcap or by having a friend toss a Frisbee TM in front of the camera. Easy is not the word, after a little practice it becomes a simple matter to frame the UFO in the picture properly and even include some foreground/background data. Thanks to the technology of the Polaroid TM people the job is even simpler. Now our camera friend does not have to wait any longer than fifteen seconds to view his work.

Some of the best hoax photographs I have ever viewed came from the Polaroid process with a young teenager behind the shutter button. Of course, there is a lot of help supplied by the older, but wiser parent/friend. Then the photographer's dream comes true; the unsuspecting media or the UFO hobbiest, who has researched the phenomenon for years, sees the picture and declares the same as a bonafide object. The result is instant success for the photographer. So many of these types of UFO photographs have been submitted to the various publishing companies and newspapers as 'hard proof'; however, after a fast review by a technically competent photographer, the images are nothing more than a lens flare, an automobile hubcap, or some other terrestrial object, either tossed or suspended in front of the camera lens. Numerous other conventional "objects", therefore, a searchlight on a cloud, aircraft landing lights, or space decay, have been misinterpreted and photographed by the untrained/uneducated eye of the witness. These photographers are generally more populous during a concentration or flap of UFO sightings. This gives the photo-hoaxer/misinterpretation a great opportunity to capitalize on his 'saucer' picture, for either capital or publicity gain.

Logically if a model airplane can be photographed to look authentic than so can a model UFO. Furthermore, this does not infer that there are no airplanes because a person can easily take a picture to represent one. In the same manner, the mere ability to fake a photograph of a UFO does not imply that the UFO does not exist.

Prior to the advent of spaceage technology, therefore, computer image enhancement, more conventional methods of UFO photograph

interpretation were utilized. Conventional analysis methods are very time consuming and are subject to a vast quantity of human judgement.

Generally conventional analysis will start with the analyzer receiving a copy of the purported aerial phenomenon. Only on the rarest of occasions is the original negative/picture forwarded. This is not a good way to commence on photographic analysis* Typical problems involving the procurement of the evaluation copy include: the original photo was taken with color film and the interpreter receives a black and white copy, or he is sent a cropped picture; one that has some of the important foreground/background data missing, as the witness thought that enlarging the UFO image many times would aid in the evaluation. Still another fallacy often occurs when the witness unwittingly omits some of the photographs from a total sequence of exposures. He will select the "best" pictures, generally the ones that look the clearest; however, they most likely will offer the least amount of analytical information.

In both conventional &computer aided analysis the next important item is the camera and film data. Frequently the simple items as camera type, lens settings, and film speed are not submitted by either the witness to the event or the field investigator representing the civilian UFO organization. However, during some of the better cases all the data and the camera equipment used for the photography have been given to the photographic analyzer. This is the best of researching conditions and obviously this will bring forth the strongest information.

Most professional photographers will then commence on the evaluation utilizing either a color or electronic densitometer, a device that measures the amount of film darkening. Conventional densitometry units generally consist of a reflection density unit and a photometer. Basically the densitometry unit is a light source and a photo-cell which measures the amount of light diffusely reflected from a sample photographic surface or in the case of transmission densitometry, a measurable beam of constant light is passed through a transparency, that is measured and sensed by a photometer. The photometer is scaled and generally can measure the lightest (brightest) of photographic areas to the darkest (blackest) areas.

The analyst uses the densitometer as an inspection tool to measure brightness or the lack of it on all the important images occurring within the UFO photograph. This method is very time-consuming and human judgement (error) can easily occur, thus resulting in some inconsistencies and missed areas on the photograph.

Some of the advantages of image enlargement, via magnification techniques, will aid the photo interpreter in viewing small images and vague details. Unfortunately, there is a limit to the amount of magnification from the standpoint of resolution. Excessive enlargement of a UFO image will only cause picture noise, therefore, the grain (on the emulsion) of the film will obscure the details of the UFO image. On rare occasions the magnifying technique has aided the technician in locating an anomalous shadow in the picture or a supporting thread above the model used to fake the photograph.

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*As the original picture would have much more photographic data than a copy

The conventional anayzing arsenal includes the utilization of a microscope to view details on a negative. Settings of 20 to 100 power have been used to spot the hoaxer's use of the montage technique and visually identify finite, yet abrupt changes in film emulsions. A montage is a composite picture made by combining several separate photographs or bits of the same. For example, a UFO photo-hoaxer has in the past photographed a disc-like UFO, carefully cut out the image, pasted the same on a previously taken picture with some foreground/background data. Then it is a simple matter to re-photograph the 'doctored' picture and the results reveal a "good" UFO photograph.

Other methods of evaluation include a measuring inspection of images in the photograph. It is a simple matter to gauge a distance of a telephone pole or a mountain if the physical size of the image is known, along with the focal length of the camera. Photometric formulas and distance factoring are a common tool of the expert photographer. If distances and some sizes can be established with mathematical calculations or a personal visit to the "sighting" area, more details and facts can be obtained on the UFO image. However, it should be noted that many of the photographs do not have any reference points and this is the point where conventional methodology fails.

In numerous instances, the skilled hoaxer has photographed both a brilliant planet or a diffused, glowing flashlight beam very effectively. Obviously, both images do not represent bonafide unidentified flying objects, one is actually millions of miles distant and the other is but a few inches from the camera. Yet it is practically impossible to gauge this distance factor conventionally, with a high degree of reliability. On many occasions the "object" was classified an unknown nocturnal light or put in the file under insufficient data.

It is just as important to classify the image a hoax or a misinterpretation of a conventional object, as it would be to clarify a truly unknown (bonafide) object. This is a prime area of importance, the separation of the signal from the noise, therefore, the strong photographic evidence from the weaker, hoaxed data. If only a small percentage of the UFO photographs could actually be rated bonafide, whereas, these same pictures successfully passed all phases of the photographic analysis, then the serious researcher would have a stronger case to present to the scientific community. Hypothetically, a dozen photographs, each representing a bonafide object, unidentifiable after the best technological tests, would be far superior evidence than a visual sighting of a UFO by ten adult witnesses. With the photographic case, we have 'hard' secondary evidence, something that can be evaluated for months or years after the initial sighting.

As techniques and technology have been updated in photographic analysis, unfortunately so have the "deceiving skills" of the hoaxer. I have seen some of the cleverest methods of photographic hoaxing transpire over the past twenty years. Until one takes time to evaluate UFO pictures, one cannot begin to appreciate the ingenuity of the hoaxer.

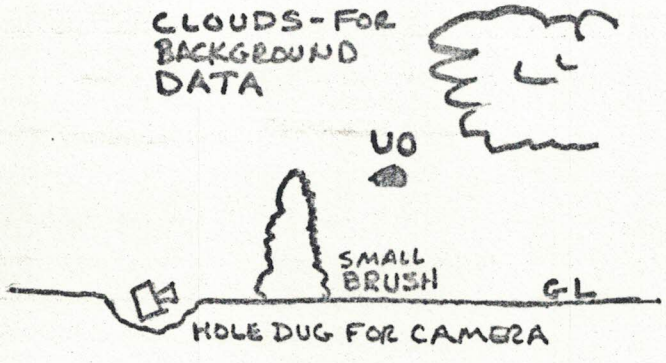
As a regular habit, I always show photographs to the various students of ufology to get their opinions. For example in a celebrated case

from South Africa, revealing sequential exposures of a metallic disc taken in the daylight mode, the statements generally sound as follows: "It must be valid, look how sharply defined it is!" Another common remark regarding the same pictures was stated, "This is it, the real thing....look how high the object is in the sky...it can't be a faked picture."

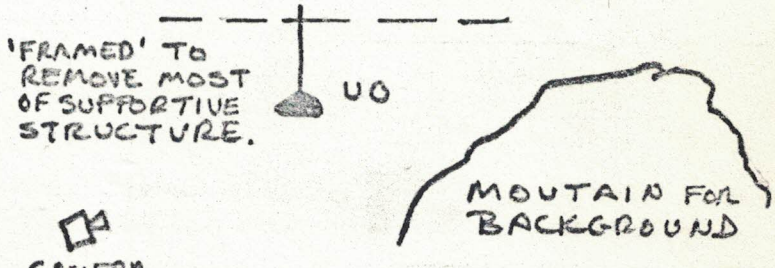
A detailed analysis did reveal that the object was real, however, it was only six inches in diameter. The object's extreme altitude was easily explained, the photographer placed the camera in a hole (in the ground) thus emphasizing the foreground bush to look like a huge tree, and in turn, created an effect on the thrown model UFO to look like it was miles distant.

Any UFO picture can be made to look good with a little practice. However, looking good does not prove a thing. It has been previously stated that the hoaxer is a clever person, yet being clever is not difficult in the field of ufology. To prove my point, I have included a series of artists' conceptions, depicting the various ways to fool the photo-analyzers. These methods work and are very simple to duplicate, without the cost of expensive equipment or the expertise of a movie studio technician.

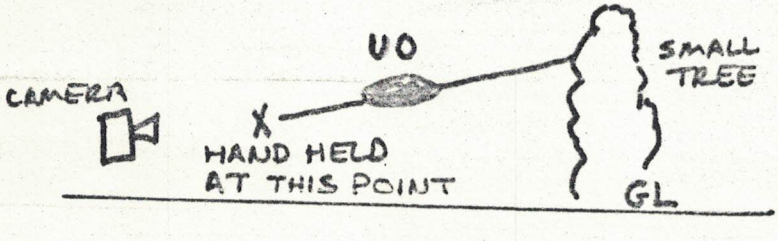
It can be said that the job of the photo-analyzer is a difficult one, However, it is one of the most necessary positions of UFO research.



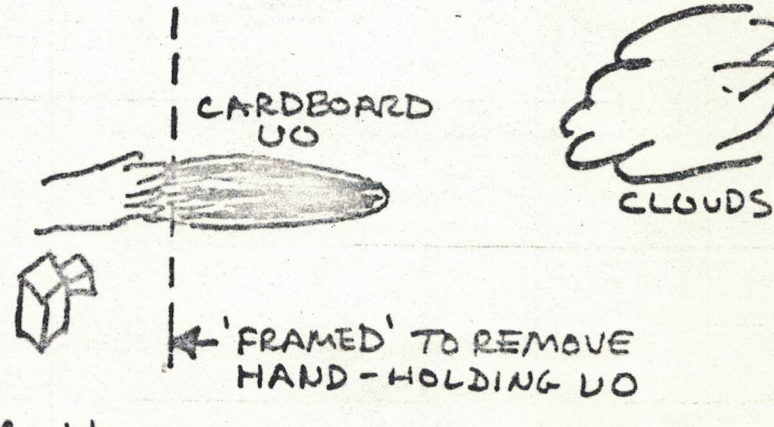
1. CAMERA-CLOSE-TO-GROUND TECHNIQUE, FOR OBJECT HEIGHT



2. VERTICAL SUPPORT TECHNIQUE.



3. HORIZONTAL SUPPORT TECHNIQUE



4. HAND HELD OJECT

National Security Agency Report
(obtained under the FOIA)

U F O HYPOTHESIS AND SURVIVAL QUESTIONS

It is the purpose of this monograph to consider briefly some of the human survival implication suggested by the various principal hypothesis concerning the nature of the phenomena loosely categorized as UFO[1].

1. ALL UFO'S ARE HOAXES: From the time when hoaxes were first noted in history, they were characterized by infrequency of occurrence and usually by a considerable restriction of their geographical extent. Rarely have men of science while acting within their professional capacities, perpetrated hoaxes. The fact that UFO phenomenon have been witnessed all over the world from ancient times, and by considerable numbers of reputable scientists in recent times, indicates rather strongly that UFO's are not all hoaxes.[2] If anything, rather than diminishing, the modern trend is toward increased reports, from all sources. In one three month period in 1953 (June, July and August) Air Force records show 35 sightings whose nature could not be determined.[3] If UFO's, contrary to all indications and expectations, are indeed hoaxes - hoaxes of a world-wide dimension - hoaxes of increasing frequency, then a human mental aberration of alarming proportions would appear to be developing. Such an aberration would seem to have serious implications for nations equipped with nuclear toys - and should require immediate and careful study by scientists.

2. ALL UFO's ARE HALLUCINATIONS: People, of course, do hallucinate. Although groups of people hallucinating is rare, it has been known to happen. Machines have their own form of hallucination; the radar, in particular, "sees" temperature inversions. But a considerable number of instances exist in which there are groups of people and a radar or radars seeing the same thing at the time; sometimes a person and a

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(1) All flying,sailing or maneuvering aerial objects whether glowing, pulsating, or of a constant metalic hue, whose shape is somewhat circular or cigarish.

(2) Anatomy of a Phenomenon, Jacques Vallee, Henry Regnery Co. Chicago, 1953. p 9-27. (Vallee has degrees in Astronomy and Physics and is currently consultant to NASA's MARS MAP STUDY).

(3) United States Air Force Projects Grudge and Bluebook Reports 1-12 (1951-1953) National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena.

(2) Visitors from Outer Space, Sputnik, (condensed from the almanac on Land and Sea) Vjacheslav Zaitsev, p 164-181.

guncamera confirm each other's testimony (4). On occasion, physical evidence of a circumstantial nature was reported to have been found to support witnessed sightings (5). A continuing high percentage of reports of unusual aerial objects are being reported by people in responsible positions in science, government, and industry (6). The sum of such evidence seems to argue strongly against all UFO's being hallucinations. In spite of all the evidence to the contrary, if UFO's did turn out to be largely illusionary, the psychological implications for man would certainly bring into strong question his ability to distinguish reality from fantasy. The negative effect on man's ability to survive in an increasingly complex world would be considerable - making it imperative that such a growing impairment of the human capacity for rational judgment be subjected to immediate and thorough scientific study - so that the illness could be controlled before it reaches epidemic proportions(7). (For comments on mass hysteria and UFO's see source 8 below which contains a statement by Dr. Robert L. Hall, a social psychologist formerly with the AF Personnel and Training Research Center and the Program Director, Sociology and Psychology, National Science Foundation).

3. ALL UFO's ARE NATURAL PHENOMENA: If this hypothesis is correct the capability of air warning systems to correctly diagnose an attack situation is open to serious question.

a. Many UFO's have been reported by trained military observers to behave like high speed, high performance, high altitude rockets or aircraft. The apparent solidity and craft-like shape of the objects have often been subject to radar confirmation (9). If such objects can appear to trained military men as rockets or air craft and if such objects should come over the Arctic from the direction of Russia on the United States, they could trigger "false reports of missile attacks".(10)

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(4) ibid., p 208, 192, 149, 146

(5) op. cit., Vallee, p. 70, 71, 74

(6) The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects, Edward J. Ruppelt, Doubleday, New York 1956. p 242. (Ruppelt was Chief of the BlueBook Study at one time.)

(7) op. cit. Ruppelt p 237 (Dutch Liner, Rome, Italy)

(8) Symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects (Second Session). July 29, 1968 nr 7 (House Committee on Science and Astronautics).

(9) op. cit., Project Grudge, pp. 192, 149, 146

(10) Flying Phenomena, Sovietskaya Latviya, No. 287, IO December 1967, p 3, Col 1-3, by R. Vitclniyak (Director of the Station for the Radio Observation of the Ionosphere and Artificial Earth Satellites).

b. Many responsible military officers have developed a mental "blind spot" to objects which appear to have the characteristics of UFO's.(10) Such an attitude is an open invitation to the enemy to build a replica of the phenomena in order to penetrate the "hole" in his adversaries' defenses - Was this the purpose of the lens shaped re-entry vehicle tested by the U.S. Air Force in 1960 and recently featured in the Washington, D.C. Evening Star, dated 24 September 1968, page A4?

c. Sometimes the phenomena appear to defy radar detection and to cause massive electromagnetic interference. Surely it is very important to discover the nature of these objects or plasmas before any prospective enemy can use their properties to build a device or system to circumvent or jam our air and space detection systems - Any nation certainly could use a system or device to penetrate enemy defenses. (11)

4. SOME UFO's ARE SECRET EARTH PROJECTS: The above referenced U.S. Air Force re-entry vehicle and an often publicized Canadian "saucer" project (9) leave little doubt as to the validity of this hypothesis. Undoubtedly, all UFO's should be carefully scrutinized to ferret-out such enemy (or "friendly") projects. Otherwise a nation faces the very strong possibility of being intimidated by a new secret "doomsday" weapon.

5. SOME UFO's ARE RELATED TO EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL INTELLIGENCE: According to some eminent scientists closely associated with the study of this phenomenon, this hypothesis cannot be disregarded. This hypothesis has a number of far-reaching human survival implications:

a. If "they" discover you, it is an old but hardly invalid rule of thumb, "they" are your technological superiors. Human history has shown us time and again the tragic results of a confrontation between a technologically superior civilization and a technologically inferior people. The "inferior" is usually subject to physical conquest.

b. Often in the past, a technologically superior human people are also possessors of a more virile or aggressive culture. In a confrontation between two peoples of significantly different cultural levels, those having the inferior or less virile culture, most often suffer a tragic loss of identity and are usually absorbed by the other people.

c. Some peoples who were technologically and/or culturally inferior to other nations have survived - have maintained their identity- have equalized the differences between them and their adversaries. The Japanese people have given us an excellent example of the methods required to achieve such a survival:

(1) full and honest acceptance of the nature of the inferiorities separating you from the advantages of the other peoples,

(2) complete national solidarity in all positions taken in dealing with the other culture,

(3) highly controlled and limited intercourse with the other side -doing only those actions advantageous to the foreigner which you are absolutely forced to do by circumstances,

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(11) ibid., Project Grudge.

(4) a correct but friendly attitude toward the other people,

(5) A national eagerness to learn everything possible about the other culture - its technological and cultural strengths and weaknesses. This often involves sending selected groups and individuals to the other's country to become one of his kind, or even to help him in his wars against other adversaries.

(6) Adopting as many of the advantages of the opposing people as you can, and doing it as fast as possible - while still protecting your own identity by molding each new knowledge increment into your own cultural cast.

6. COMMENT: Although this paper has hardly exhausted the possible hypotheses related to the UFO phenomena, those mentioned above are the principal ones presently put forward. All of them have serious survival implications. The final answer to this mystery will probably include more than one of the above hypotheses.

Up until this time, the leisurely scientific approach has too often taken precedence in dealing with UFO questions. If you are walking along a forest path and someone yells, "rattler" your reaction would be immediate and defensive. You would not take time to speculate before you act. You would have to treat the alarm as if it were a real and immediate threat to your survival. Investigation would become an intensive emergency action to isolate the threat and to determine it's precise nature - It would be geared to developing adequate defensive measures in a minimum amount of time.

It would seem a little more of this survival attitude is called for in dealing with the UFO problem.

Observations of chimpanzees while in a captive environment have shown that the animals tend to become confused and disoriented. Since they do not usually have adult chimps to teach them how to be good apes, they are not even sure of their behavior. Often their actions are patterned after human behavior and would have virtually no survival value in the wild. Lacking the challenge of environmental adaptation, the bodies of the animals atrophy and become subject to many diseases - mostly unknown in their wild counterparts. Reactions to stimulis usually become less responsive and suitable. Sex often becomes a year long preoccupation instead of a seasonal madness.

Do the captivity characteristics of modern civilization cause a similar lessening of man's adaptive capability, of his health, of his ability to recognize reality, of his ability to survive?

Perhaps the UFO question might even make man undertake studies which could enable him to construct a society which is most conducive to developing a completely human being, healthy in all respects of mind and body - and most important, able to recognize and adapt to real environmental situations.

-END-

AUGUST STAFF EDITORIAL

Part II

"Does Secrecy Exist within the Government Investigation and Policies of the UFO?".

November 1951: As a prelude to the famous Robertson Panel, another panel of four scientists, on the government payroll, convened at ATIC to make a preliminary review of the accumulated UFO reports to date. The scientists recommended a larger and more detailed investigation of the subject, staffed by top scientific talent.

January 17, 1953: The Robertson Panel adjourned without publishing its findings or conclusions. Since 1953, two conflicting versions have been released to the public:

I. Conclusions of the Robertson Panel as reported by Ruppelt in 1956.

The panel recommended that the UFO project be expanded, with an increase in the government investigative size and number, staffed by trained scientists; that tracking instrumentation be established throughout the United States, and that the public be told "every detail during each phase of the investigation." The scientists believed this information flow would dispel the mystery created by military security and additionally keep the whole investigation on a scientific basis. Obviously, these recommendations were not adopted.

II. Summary Released by the Air Force in 1958. The panel concluded that UFO's constituted no "direct physical threat to national security", there was no evidence of "foreign artifacts capable of hostile acts" and "no need for revision of current scientific concepts." The panel further recommended "immediate steps to strip the Unidentified Flying Objects of the special status they have been given and the aura of mystery they have unfortunately acquired." The panel suggested "an integrated program designed to reassure the public of the total lack of evidence of inimical forces behind the phenomena."

EDITORS NOTE: The following is an excerpt from the now declassified Robertson Panel Report.

A. The panel concluded; (A) That the evidence presented on the Unidentified Flying Object shows no indication that these phenomena constitute a direct physical threat to national security. We firmly believe that there is no residuum of cases which indicate phenomena that are attributable to foreign artifacts capable of hostile acts, and that there is no evidence that the phenomena indicate a need for the revision of current scientific concepts.

B. That the continued emphasis on the reporting of these phenomena does, in these parlous times, result in a threat to the orderly functioning of the protective organs of the body politic. We cite as examples the clogging of channels

of channels of communication by irrelevant reports, the danger of being led by continued false alarms to ignore real indications of hostile action, and the cultivation of a morbid national psychology in which skillful hostile propaganda could induce hysterical behavior and harmful distrust of duly constituted authority.

C. That the national security agencies take immediate steps to strip the Unidentified Flying Object of the special status they have been given and the aura of mystery they have unfortunately acquired.

"It was believed unofficial investigating groups should be watched because of their potentially great influence on mass thinking if widespread sightings should occur. The apparent irresponsibility and the possible use of such groups for subversive purposes should be kept in mind."

D. That the national security agencies institute policies on intelligence, training, and public education designed to prepare the national defenses and the morale of the country to recognize most promptly and to react most effectively to true indications of hostile intent or action.

The 1958 summary issued by the Air Force Office of Public Information (PIO) - five years after the fact - released, for the first time, the names of the scientists on the panel; H.P. Robertson, Luis Alvarez, Lloyd Berkner, Thornton Page, and S. Goudsmit. Exactly what transpired at the conclusion of that week long meeting is not clear, however, a strong suspicion exists that the whole report has either not been made public to date, or it has been modified in its publication. Logically, if the final conclusions of that "elite" panel had been clearly negative, as the 1958 AF summary implied, there would have been no reason to guard those conclusions and subsequently classify them Top-Secret. On the contrary, there would have been every reason to make massive public announcements and thus "strip the subject of its special status" and "aura of mystery". The only clear indication of the panel's conclusion is the subsequent public performance by the AF's Project Blue Book.

During years of apparent serious interest in gathering, superior, quantitative data, which supports Capt. Ruppelt's version of the panel conclusions, the AF, reversing their apparent stand, started severe debunking tactics. Since 1953 the AF does not admit to having the slightest shred of evidence, regarding the reality of the UFO phenomena, nor does it now admit that anything out of the ordinary is or has been taking place. Concurrently, with their debunking tactics, the AF has conducted a fantastic snow-job through the PIO. It has adhered to a continuing policy of public reassurance even though its prestige and credibility has suffered. Members of the Congress, citizens or any part of the media requesting current information on the subject are repeatedly told that UFO's do not present any danger or threat to national security.

At approximately the same time as the Robertson Panel deliberations, the AF, through its own RAND Corporation, had an independent study of the UFO conducted. The results of this study were published by Project Blue Book in "Special Report No. 14". What relationship this report had to the Robertson Panel conclusions is unknown. However, the introduction to the Blue Book report states; "The special study which resulted in this report started in 1953....the information cut off date was established as of the end of 1952.

August 26, 1953: AF Regulation 200-2 issued by the Secretary of the Air Force; procedures UFO's and restrictions regarding public discussion of the subject.

December 1, 1953: The Air Force announced, in Washington D.C., that it had set up, throughout the U.S., cameras equipped with diffraction gratings for use in analysis of the light from UFO's.

Summary 1953: After an intensive review of the UFO situation, a new, serious, investigation was started; the evidence of UFO reality led many high ranking officers to conclude that the UFO phenomena had an interplanetary origin.

January 6, 1954: News reporters seeking information concerning UFO's were banned from ATIC, Wright-Patterson AFB.

February 23, 1954: Scripps-Howard papers reported that the Air Force had worked out a plan with commercial airline companies to report sightings quickly.

May 15, 1954: General Nathan Twining, Air Force Chief of Staff, stated that the best brains in the country were working on the UFO problem because the AF could not explain 109 of the sightings.

EDITORS NOTE: No summations will be given after the ensuing years due to a continuing redundancy in government policy after the year - 1953.

May 5, 1955: Project Blue Book "Special Report No. 14" was declassified.

October 25, 1955: Summary of the Project Blue Book Report released to the press; linked with a statement that the Air Force would soon have its own "saucer-like" shaped aircraft - the AVRO disc. The AVRO disc project, coded Project Magnet, was subsequently scrapped without producing a controllable craft. The press releases continued by paraphrasing the familiar cliche, "UFO's constitute no threat to the security of the United States."

Years 1956 and 1957: The subject of UFO's all but faded from the news. Queries to the Air Force were answered by an official "fact sheet" refering to the report of 1955. A 1957 "fact sheet" stated that the percentile of unknown cases had been reduced "from approximately 10% in 1954 to 3%, as of now".

July 10, 1957: GSW formed in Cleveland, Ohio.

September 12, 1957: "No reports of unidentified flying objects have been withheld....all civilian UFO groups have received all information in the hands of the United States Air Force." (Maj. Gen. J. Kelly and unnamed PIO at ATIC.)

November 15, 1957: When the USAF was asked for data on specific cases, by various UFO research groups during the "Flap of '57", Gen. J. Kelly replied: "I assure you the Air Force never intended to turn over "Official Use Only" files to any civilian organization."

November 1957: When the "Flap" of UFO reports began on November 1st, "fact sheets" were issued on the letterhead of the Department of Defense, Office of Public Affairs. These hastily compiled "facts" emphasized the percentage of explained UFO reports, and again the lack of positive evidence of "a threat to the security of the country". During this same period, hundreds of UFO reports were received and to this day remain unresolved thus joining the ranks of the unknown!

Years 1958-1959: "Fact sheets" were issued about twice a year, reiterating the same old government position.

July 3, 1958: "We are interested in the truth concerning reported sightings and are fully aware of our obligation to keep the public informed on such matters." (Richard Horner, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for R and D" ; remark concerning the UFO phenomena.)

October 10, 1958: "The Department of the Air Force does not "edit" or "splice" film submitted by private citizens. When the Department receives such a film, it does make the necessary studies, analysis, and duplicates of such film. When this work has been completed, it has been the consistent practice of the Department to return the film to the person who submitted it." (Major L. Tacker, PIO, USAF)
EDITORS NOTE: Photographs which the owners allege were either edited, spliced or not returned to them by the Air Force, follow: Nick Mariana - the "M" movies - 1950, D.C. Newhouse - the "U" movies - 1952, Ralph Mayer (news reporter) - the "Miami" movies. These are a few of the many examples.

December 1959: Air Force Inspector General brief to all Operational and Training Commands: "UFO's Serious Business". The major points of this directive covered general AF investigative techniques and procedures, it stated that all evaluation personnel "should be equipped with binoculars, camera, geiger counter, magnifying glass and have a source of containers in which to store samples".

August 15, 1960: "Air Force Information Letter, for Commanders", Vol. XIV, No. 12, issued by the Office of the Secretary, United States Air Force. Under the title of "AF Keeping Watchful Eye on Aerospace" the letter stated, "There is a relationship between the Air Force's Interest in space surveillance and its continuous surveillance of the atmosphere near Earth for unidentified flying objects - UFO's".

Years 1960-1961: Through its spokesman in the Pentagon, Lt. Col. Lawrence Tacker, the Air Force began answering critics of its UFO policies. Late in 1960 Lt. Col. Tacker's book "Flying Saucers and the U.S.A.F." was published. Tacker went on a public tour publicizing the anti-UFO book.

June 1961: The outspoken new policy of the Air Force apparently backfired. Angered by Lt. Col. Tackers attitude, numerous citizens deluged Congress with requests for an investigation of the AF UFO project. Congressional hearings were scheduled but never materialized, instead the AF congressional liaison personnel briefed key congressional committees in private.

February 6, 1962: The Air Force issued the last "fact sheet" - Number 179-62, then ceased publication of this type of public information sheet.

Years 1963-1964: During this period, packets of UFO information, including some details of specific cases, were substituted for the generalized "fact sheets". The unexplained cases for each year were briefly described. With the newer publication, the UNKNOWN category was rendered meaningless by the inclusions of vague and incomplete cases. Formerly the term UNKNOWN was applied to the most detailed and painstakingly investigated cases that could not be explained. Now the distinction between cases of impeccable detail and strangeness and those of poor observational quality has been lost and the real meaning of UNKNOWN blurred.

March 22, 1966: The AF announced it was going to call in its top scientific advisor - Dr. J.A. Hynek - to solve the summer flap of UFO reports - especially the Dexter and Hillsdale Michigan cases.

March 25, 1966: Dr. Hynek's preposterous and famous "forced explanation" of the Michigan sightings - "SWAMP GAS"!

November 1, 1966: The Condon Committee begins its "whitewash" study of the University of Colorado.

January 9, 1969: The Condon Committee releases its report to the public - nothing gained during their two year study. This study spent over $500,000 and set off a controversy that still rages today.

December 17, 1969: The Air Force announces closure of Project Blue Book and in closing the AF related "The UFOs offer no threat to the national security of the country".

July 26, 1972: GSW, East and West, goes "public" and fifteen years of "underground" UFO research is revealed.

August thru November - 1972: The Air Force begins to cooperate with civilian UFO research organizations. A 180 degree reversal from years past.

March thru December 1973: Largest and longest UFO flap in recorded history. Thousands of UFO reports received from all over the world. Scientific respectability granted to the UFO phenomena.

November 1973: GSW policy to work with Dr. Hynek's "Center for UFO Studies" (CUFOS).

Year 1974: More scientific respectability, better UFO reports, and the U.S. government stops its policy of ridicule toward UFO witnesses.

Year 1975: GSW policy to work with MUFON, Directed by Walter Andrus.

Year 1977: GSW commences legal action against the CIA in a first of-a-kind FOIA lawsuit.

Year 1979: Between FOIA requests and the lawsuit, 2,000 pages of documents received proving the U.S. governments' continuing role in a UFO investigation. Evidence of cover-up and concern by U.S. officials.

Year 1980: Evidence emerging that the U.S. Government is responsible for some of the UFO reports. UFO's could be a government deception.

GSW

The GSW News Bulletin is published three times annually...April, August, and December. Regular features include "Directly Speaking" by William H. Spaulding, Director, WD., organizational news, Map of Sightings, as well as interesting articles & stories relating to various aspects of UFOlogy.

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Scientist Admits Hoax Produced 'Proof' Of UFOs

(Reprinted from CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR April 1980)

A decade ago near Warminster, England, a flying saucer appeared in the night sky with a burst of purple light, according to about 30 witnesses who regularly gathered on nearby Cradle Hill to watch for such phenomena.

A detector sounded, indicating the presence of a strong magnetic field. Photos taken at the time showed the saucer moving across the sky.

This was the "Warminster Event," destined to gain fame in unidentified-flying object circles as one of the best-documented saucer sightings. Experts judged that the photos could not possibly have been faked.

But they were faked, as part of a series of "controlled hoaxes" perpetrated by British physicist David I. Simpson in a study of the competence of UFO investigators.

Summarizing his findings recently in the magazine Skeptical Inquirer and using the Warminster incident as an illustration, Simpson gives a warning to those who may forget that the mind tends to see what it wants to believe.

"Occasionally, individuals with relevant technical backgrounds become involved; it is disturbing to witness the abandoning of their mental disciplines and common sense," he says.

There indeed was a purple spotlight to be seen near Warminster on Saturday, March 28, 1970, at 11 p.m. Simpson shone a purple spotlight toward the Cradle Hill watchers - switching it on for five seconds, off five seconds and finally on for 25 seconds.

The "magnetic field" detector was bogus, operated by a confederate to sound a phony alarm.

The photos had been pre-exposed to show the saucer. Thus, although they carefully were shepherded from camera to developing tank "so no hoax could occur," they already were compromised.

Supposedly careful investigation by UFO organizations and even skilled (but UFO-inclined) experts found no evidence of trickery. Yet signs of fakery purposely were left in the photos. Such indications were overlooked, though, while eyewitnesses later talked of seeing a red light in the midst of the purple glow (where there was no red) and of seeing the saucer itself.

Such gullibility is typical of what Simpson says he found among UFO investigators. This is worth remembering when enthusiasts accuse skeptics of "bias". The "irrational thinking (of UFO students) is infectious and has often provided the media with entertaining headlines," Simpson says.

Limit To Information Act Endorsed, Paper Says

(From the offices of United Press International)

The Justice Department has endorsed a proposal to let the FBI and CIA certify as secret certain material sought under Freedom of Information suits, it was reported recently.

Under current law, if the agencies deny certain documents requested in such suits, federal courts have the power to examine the documents and determine whether they have been properly withheld.

The Justice Department proposes, according to the Washington Post, that if the two agencies certifed certain material as secret it would not be subject to judicial review.

The proposal, according to sources quoted by the Post, covers:

- Intelligence information not obtained from U.S. government employees
- Information identifying or "tending to identify" a potential or actual source of information.
- Information about technical or scientific systems for information gathering, so long as these methods do not involve a risk to human life or health.

The proposal is expected to be submitted to appropriate House and Senate subcommittees with oversight over the Freedom of Information Act. They might also go to the House and Senate Intelligence committees, which are considering a new charter spelling out the powers and limits of the intelligence agencies.

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SUGGESTED READING

For those UFO researchers who are seriously interested in keeping abreast of the latest developments in the field of UFOlogy, GSW recommends the following publications:

CUFOS's International UFO Reporter
CUFOS
1609 Sherman Ave. Suite 207 'PROBE'
Evanston, IL 60201
$12.00/yr - ATTN: Allan Hendry

JUST CAUSE
P.O. Box 9743
Arlington, VA 22204
NOTE: CAUS(Citizens Against UFO Secrecy) no longer publishes a monthly bulletin - CAUS will honor all previous subscriptions.
$10.00/yr (12 issues)

Retrievals of the Third Kind
(Case study of Alleged UFO occupants in military custody
By: Len Stringfield (contact GSW)

MUFON's Symposium Proceedings
Contact MUFON
1973 thru 1979 Available
MUFON's UFO Journal
MUFON, INC 103 Old Towne Rd
Seguin, TX 78155
$10.00/yr - ATTN: Walt Andrus